

IN THE DRAWINGS:

A Letter to the Official Draftsman is attached with proposed drawing corrections to Figures 2 through 4.

The attached sheet of drawings includes changes to Figs. 2 through 4. These sheets, which include Figs. 2 through 4, replace the original sheets of Figs. 2 through 4.

REMARKS

In the Office Action, the Examiner objected to the abstract of the disclosure under MPEP §608.01(b). The drawings were objected to for informalities under 37 CFR 1.121(d). Additionally, claim 1 was objected to for informalities. Further, the Examiner rejected claims 1-11 under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite. Claims 1-5, 9, and 11 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Kruger in U.S. Patent No. 6,250,842. Claims 7, 8 and 10 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kruger in U.S. Patent No. 6,250,842 in view of Lasmarigues in British Patent No. 1,176,175. Finally, claim 6 was objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form.

In response to the informalities noted by the Examiner, claims 4 and 6 have been canceled and claims 1-3, 5, and 7-11 have been amended with the subject matter of claims 4 and 6 incorporated into claim 1. Accordingly, in view of the indication of the allowability of claim 6, it is respectfully submitted that the application is now in condition for allowance.

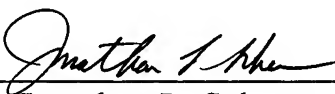
Based on the foregoing amendments and remarks, it is respectfully submitted that the claims in the present application, as they now stand, patentably distinguish over the references cited and applied by the Examiner and are, therefore, in condition

for allowance. A Notice of Allowance is in order, and such favorable action and reconsideration are respectfully requested.

However, if after reviewing the above amendments and remarks, the Examiner has any questions or comments, he is cordially invited to contact the undersigned attorneys.

Respectfully submitted,

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